

EXHIBIT 11 Quality School Grant 2011  
DATE 1/12/11 DATE 1/12/11  
HB 15 HB 15

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to show the Stanford Public School District's dire need in receiving the *Quality School Grant* to replace our single existing steam boiler. The boiler in the school dates back to 1958 and is more than 25 years past its original manufacture intended life. The boiler is extremely inefficient, very unreliable, and difficult to maintain. In the first week of November, 2010 the boiler went down. The schools mechanic tried for many hours to get it restarted, but to no avail. Stanford had to have *Combustion Service Company* out of Great Falls come down and after a full day without heat, they were able to get the burner to function on low. They were not able to get it in full working order, since parts are no longer being made for this boiler. Stanford Public school had to purchase a \$26K custom built burner and *Combustion Service Company* told us they could not guarantee the boiler would last a month, even with the new burner. The burner was manufactured to be a dual line, able to function on both diesel and propane, so it can be fitted to any new boiler.

If our boiler was to completely fail, losing our heating system could potentially result in frozen and broken pipes, which would be a catastrophic loss. As was mentioned in the Grant Application, we are a small ranching and farming community. Most of the members of our district, though supportive of our school, do not have the necessary incomes to support funding of this heating system without the assistance of this Grant, as is reflected by our high percentage of free and reduced lunch students in our school. We are also the County Seat, so not only is our school an important place for educating our youth, we also have an open gym and facility for the community to use and we are a 911 shelter in the event of an emergency. I would say on any given night you could visit the Stanford School and find a 4-H club meeting, a community event, athletic competition, adult education class, or a group of kids playing basketball and or lifting weights. As you see, this school is the hub of our community and it is essential to keep it open and running smoothly.

As for inefficiency, this boiler cost our school and the state thousands of unnecessary dollars in fuel. It is estimated that replacement of the heating system would result in approximately \$8,007 savings per year. Our current boiler is only operating at 70% efficiency, where the proposed boiler would operate at a rate of 84% efficiency. We would also save approximately \$5,000 per year in pollution liability insurance because the new system would use an above ground tank verses the old underground unit. By moving to an above ground propane tank instead of the underground diesel, we would not only please the school's budget, but the Dept. of Environmental Quality, as they do not like the underground diesel tanks. We would also have the ability to convert to Biomass fuel, which would be the optimum in energy efficiency. By installing local controls for each classroom, we will be able to direct the heat distributed to each classroom and save in energy cost. Currently, the teachers must manually cycle the fans to regulate the temperature in their classrooms as the thermostats no longer work; this leads to additional energy loss and expense.

In conclusion, it is imperative to our school and community we receive this grant and hope that you will approve us for replacement of our boiler system and local thermostat controls. Without this funding, we are at a loss as to what we will do in the event of an emergency. We hope to be a part of the nationwide move towards Energy Efficiency and will co-operate in whatever is requested of us if awarded this special opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Troy Henderson

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